

Amendments to the Specification:

In the specification:

On page 2, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 27 with the following amended paragraph:

However, the surface of the lens must be clean prior to taping or ~~spaying~~spraying and therefore requires some particular care and attention during the process. For that purpose, in some lens production lines, a cleaning step is introduced prior to protecting step.

On page 3, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

The first step in blocking the lens is precisely positioning the blocker with respect to the lens. In some cases, the position of the lens with respect to the blocker is critical. ~~Miss~~
Mispositioning of the lens on the blocker may lead to poor optical performance of the final lens. In order to ensure an accurate positioning of the lens ~~on~~of the blocker, an enlarging imaging device is used whereby the operator views the lens and moves the lens over the blocker, until pre-marked reference marks on the lens surface appear in a predetermined position.

Also on page 3, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 19 with the following amended paragraph:

A typical blocking system comprises a hot reservoir of melted alloy or wax, a ~~m~~-mechanical system to hold the blocker, a vision or imaging system for viewing the lens and the reference marks at large scale. During the blocking process, when the operator confirms that the lens is properly positioned with respect to the blocker, the alloy is pumped to fill the gap between the blocker and the lens.

On page 4, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 22 with the following amended paragraph:

According to one particular embodiment, there is provided a method for processing optical faces of a lens wherein gripping a lens blank during processing optical faces of the lens is carried out by

gripping the blank at portions of the blank having a radius greater ~~then~~than that of the processed optical faces.

On page 5, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 6 with the following amended paragraph:

At the same grip, processing the lens blank to obtain a full-spatial reference datum indications and processing a first optical face of the lens whereby said reference datum indications define the coordinates of the lens with respect to said first optical face; and wherein not more ~~then~~than one reference datum indication extends on an optical surface of the lens;

Also on page 5, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 17 with the following amended paragraph:

According to a first modification of the first embodiment of the invention, after processing the first optical face of the lens, a removable structural support material is molded into a cavity formed at said first optical face, to thereby hold/support, reinforce and increase rigidity of the lens during processing the second lens face. Preferably, some anchoring means are formed at a front side of the partially processed lens, such as a peripheral recess or ~~indentions~~indentations, to increase attachment of the structural support material to the lens. Still preferably, the finished surface of the first optical face is coated with a protective material prior to applying the structural support material. Other finishing processes may also be carried out at that stage.

On page 6, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 13 with the following amended paragraph:

Blocking the first optical face of the lens to a blocking chuck, where reference datum of the blocking chucker is in register with the reference datum of the lens blank;

Also on page 6, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 19 with the following amended paragraph:

According to another aspect of the invention, there is provided a lens blank pre-formed with full-spatial reference datum indications, whereby the blank may than be gripped by a gripping device

for use in conjunction with a lens processing machine, relying on said reference datum indicia, for processing both optical faces of the lens. The coordinates determined by the reference datum indications provide spatial information corresponding with the complexity of the lens concerned. ~~Required.~~ However, not more than one reference datum indication extends on an optical surface of the lens and according to some embodiments, all reference datum indications extend out of the optical face of lens. It is however appreciated that the lens blank is pre-formed with all reference datum indications, or with at least one such reference datum indication, whereby further reference datum indications are formed on the lens blank as may be required, depending on the lens type and optical complexity.

On page 7, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 17 with the following amended paragraph:

By one particular application of the further embodiment of the invention, a lens blank is obtained integral with ~~an a-priori integral~~ a chuck extending at one face thereof. A first face of the lens is processed whilst gripping the blank by said integral chuck and then an additional chuck is attached to said first face in full register with said integral chuck. By gripping the blank at said additional chuck, the integral chuck is machined away and further the second face of the lens is processed.

On page 11, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 17 with the following amended paragraph:

At a first processing step (Fig. 2B) the lens blank **80** is precisely machined to form a circumferential cylindrical surface **82** coaxial with the axis of the chuck **84** and having a predetermined axial length **L**, measured from a first optical face **88** of the lens blank **80**, which has been leveled to extend normal to the axis of the blank. Further, an axial recess **90** is formed on the periphery of the blank, aligned with the axial axis thereof. The cylindrical surface **82**, the length **L** and the axial recess **90**, constitute full-spatial orientation reference datum indications, whereby precise coordination of the lens ~~are~~ is now available, providing complete orientation of the lens.

On page 12, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

At a further step (Fig. 2D) a structural support material 104 in liquid form is molded, or otherwise applied, to the cavity 98 formed at the first optical face of the lens 80 and is allowed to harden and to solidify with the lens blank. The structural support material is, for example, a so-called *wood alloy* which is a material having a relatively low temperature (typically in the range of about 47°C to 85°C) or a special wax. Upon hardening, the structural support material 104 is well received within the cavity 98 and firmly received within ~~groove~~recess 100 thereof, thereby allows for applying radial inwardly directed force for gripping the lens blank, as will become apparent with reference to Figures 2E-2G. Furthermore, the structural support material 104 reinforces and increases rigidity of the lens and reduces vibrations caused during the processing of the second optical face of the lens, upon axial progress of the machining/processing equipment and thinning of the lens.

On page 13, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 16 with the following amended paragraph:

Then, the first optical face 142 of the lens is finalized (Fig. 4C) and the lens blank 128 is removed from the chuck 130. However, in some cases the optical topography of the first optical face may be completed, whereas final finishing (e.g. polishing, coating, etc) is carried out after completing the topography of the second optical face. A blocker chuck 150 is then attached to the first surface 142 of the lens blank 128, typically by applying some protective tape (surface saver), to thereby protect the lens surface on the one hand, and, on the other hand, to increase adhesion of the blocker chuck to the lens.

Also on page 13, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 24 with the following amended paragraph:

The blocker chuck 150 is a metallic article formed with reference datum indications, e.g. chuck-engaging recesses 154, accurately machined cylindrical surface 156 and the overall height H of the chuck portion of the blocker chuck 150 which together constitute full-spatial orientation reference datum indications, whereby precise co-ordinations and full orientation of the lens are available. It is however appreciated that the blocker chuck 150 is attached to the lens blank 128 at true-position relation ensuring that the reference datum indications of the blocker chuck 150 is in register with the

reference datum indications performed (machined) on the lens blank 128, as explained in connection with Fig. 4B.

On page 14, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

The assembled lens blank and blocker chuck are then attached to the chuck 130 in a tight manner and relying on the reference datum indications of the blocker chuck 150, whereby the second surface of the blank 154 is machined (Fig. 4E). Upon completing the second lens surface 154 the blocker 150 may be removed from the chuck (Fig 4F) though a peripheral residual portion 160 is still to be removed prior to obtaining a final lens as illustrated in Fig. 3.

Also on page 14, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 23 with the following amended paragraph:

After securing the lens blank 186 to the adapter ring 190, the ring is secured to a gripping device 202 (Fig. 5B5A) where positioning of the lens blank is governed by the reference datum indications of the adapter ring 190 in combination with corresponding portions of the gripping device 202, e.g. matching engagement of inclined surface 196 with corresponding surface 206 of the gripping device, projection of a positioning pin 208 into the hole 198, etc. According to this arrangement, there is no need to form the lens blank with any reference datum indications as these are provided by the adapter ring. Even more so, the sub-assembly of the lens blank and the adapter ring may be moved between different workstations while retaining the reference datum.

On page 15, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

Figs. 6A-6D and 7A -7D are directed to a modified concept of the invention in accordance with the present invention. Referring first to Figs. 6A to 6H, wherein pairs of figures illustrate consecutive steps of a method for manufacturing a lens each comprising a front isometric view and a rear isometric view. There are illustrated consecutive steps for obtaining a lens wherein at the first step (Fig. 6A and 6B) a lens blank generally designated 220 is obtained, said lens blank being integrally fitted with a blocking chuck 222 wherein only poor precision is required between an axis of the blank 220 and the

chuck 222. The chuck 222 is typically molded of the same material as the blank 220, namely a polymeric material, etc.

Also on page 15, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 12 with the following amended paragraph:

Whilst gripping the blank 220 at the first chuck 222, a first face 228 of the lens 228 is processed, e.g. by machining (Figs. 6C and 6D). It is apparent that the first ~~surface-face~~ 228 is in register with the first chuck 222. By using the term in register it is meant that the first chuck 222 may be coaxial with the blank 220 and extending on an axis normal to the first surface 222, although offset alignment or tilt may be deliberate, depending on optical parameters of the lens. It is preferred that at the step of Figs. 6C and 6D the first face 228 of the lens be finished, though in accordance with a modification, the first face may be only partially processed wherein further processing and finishing will be required at a later stage as discussed in connection with previous embodiments.

On page 16, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 15 with the following amended paragraph:

Turning now to the embodiment of Figs. 7A-7D another embodiment of a method for obtaining a lens in accordance with the present invention is illustrated. At a first step (Fig. 7A) a lens blank 242 is obtained, without particular precision requirements regarding the first and second faces thereof. At a next step (Fig. 7B) a first chuck 244 is blocked to a first face 246 of the blank 242 again, without particular care regarding precision of concentricity and perpendicularity of the chuck 244 with respect to the blank 242. Then, a first face 248 of the lens 248 is processed (Fig. 7C), e.g. by machining, preferably though not required to a complete polished surface. However, as already mentioned in connection with the previous embodiment, finishing of the first face 248 may be accomplished at a later stage.

Also on page 16, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 25 with the following amended paragraph:

At the next stage (Fig. 7D) a second chuck **250** is blocked to the first face **248** of the lens (~~Fig. 7~~) whereupon the first chuck **244** may be removed and the second face of the lens may be processed up to polishing and finishing thereof to obtain a complete lens upon removal of the second chuck **250**.

On page 17, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 12 with the following amended paragraph:

The embodiment of Fig. 8B illustrates the apparatus in an open position wherein the second gripper **268** grips a lens blank in accordance with the embodiment of Fig. 7C, i.e., where a blocker chuck **290** is blocked to the lens blank **292** and whereupon a second blocker chuck **296** is to be blocked to a first processed face 298 of the lens~~298~~, as per Fig. 7D.